



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: **Whitman, et al.**
Application No.: **10/010,955**
Attorney Docket No.: **3556-P02472US01**
Filed: **November 13, 2001**
For: **"SURGICAL CLAMPING, CUTTING AND STAPLING DEVICE"**
Examiner: **Smith, Scott A.**
Group Art Unit: **3721**

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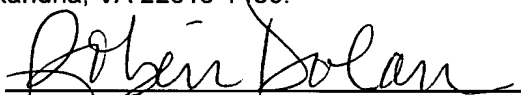
10/27/03

B Ross

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this Response and accompanying papers are being deposited on **October 17, 2003** with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope properly addressed to COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

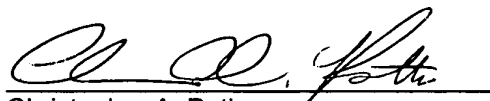
October 17, 2003
Date of Certificate


Robin Dolan

Petition for Extension Under 37 CFR §1.136(a)

Applicant's undersigned Attorney hereby petitions for an extension of time of **THREE** months beyond the time period set in the last office communication. The proper fee is enclosed as identified in the enclosed Fee Transmittal form.

October 17, 2003
Date of Certificate


Christopher A. Rothe
PTO Registration No. 54,650

AMENDMENT

In response to the Official Action dated April 17, 2003 (paper #4), please amend the above-identified application as indicated on the following pages.

The amendments to the **claims** begin on **page 2**.

The **remarks** concerning the office action and the Applicant's amendments begin on **page 12**.

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01 FC:2253 475.00 OP

10/23/2003 JBALINAN 00000113 10010955

02 FC:2201 172.00 OP

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